

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 06924 311834Z

10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /050 W

----- 023719

R 311545Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9407

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 980

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 06924

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, GR

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION VIEW ON EC-GREECE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
MEETING

REFS: A) ATHENS 5715 (NOTAL)

B) EC BRUSSELS 5583 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: AN EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL CONFIRMS THAT THE EC-GREECE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING PRODUCED NO CONCRETE RESULTS. THE TECHNICAL WORK ON AGRICULTURAL HARMONIZATION IS PROGRESSING SLOWLY. NO DECISION ON A FINANCIAL PROTOCOL CAN BE TAKEN UNTIL EC MINISTERS HAVE EXAMINED THE QUESTION IN THE FALL. END SUMMARY.

2. AN EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE JULY 28 EC-GREECE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL IN ATHENS CONFIRMS THAT LITTLE CONCRETE TRANSPIRED AT THE MEETING (REFTEL A). THE COMMISSION HAD ATTEMPTED TO ENCOURAGE THE GREEKS TO AGREE TO POSTPONING THE MEETING UNTIL THE FALL WHEN THE EC MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE MORE DEFINITE COMMIT-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 06924 311834Z

MENTS, BUT THE GREEKS, FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS,

HAD INSISTED ON THE JULY DATE.

3. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, THE GREEKS RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR MEMBERSHIP IS A LONG WAY OFF AND ARE ANXIOUS THEREFORE TO MOVE AHEAD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE WITH IMPROVEMENTS IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EC UNDER THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT PENDING THEIR ACCESSION. THEIR PRIMARY INTERESTS CONTINUE TO BE AGRICULTURAL HARMONIZATION AND THE FINANCIAL PROTOCOL.

4. WORK TOWARDS AGRICULTURAL HARMONIZATION WILL NOW ENTER A LONG AND TEDIOUS PHASE WHICH WILL BE LEFT LARGELY TO THE TECHNICIANS. AT SOME UNSPECIFIED, BUT STILL DISTANT, POINT THE STICKY PROBLEMS WILL HAVE TO BE RESOLVED BY MINISTERS. OUR SOURCE BELIEVES THE GREEKS WILL PROBABLY BE MORE WILLING TO MAKE CONCESSIONS THEN THEY HAD BEEN IN THE PAST DUE TO THEIR OVERRIDING POLITICAL INTEREST IN JOINING THE COMMUNITY.

5. THE FINANCIAL PROTOCOL WAS CONSIDERED ONLY BRIEFLY AT THE MEETING BECAUSE EC MINISTERS HAVE NOT REACHED ANY DECISIONS. THE COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED TO THE EC COUNCIL THAT THE 150 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT, WHICH GREECE HAS REQUESTED BE PUT IN A SPECIAL FUND TO BE USED FOR OUTRIGHT GRANTS TO IMPROVE GREEK AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE, BE REDUCED TO 120 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT. OUR SOURCE ACKNOWLEDGES THIS FIGURE IS SOMEWHAT ARBITRARY. THE COMMISSION FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT THE COUNCIL REDUCE THE GREEK REQUEST FOR 250 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT DRAWING RIGHTS ON THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK TO SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 200-230 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT. THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT THE FIGURE BE EXAMINED TOGETHER WITH THE INTEREST RATE QUESTION. TO THE EXTENT THAT GREECE IS GIVEN PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ON INTEREST RATES THE FINAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO IT FROM THE BANK SHOULD BE REDUCED. THE COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO CONSIDER THESE QUESTIONS IN SEPTEMBER AND THE COMMISSION HAS REQUESTED A DECISION IN OCTOBER BUT OUR SOURCE DOES NOT THINK THE COUNCIL WILL ACT THAT FAST. IN ANY EVENT, EVEN AFTER COUNCIL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 EC BRU 06924 311834Z

APPROVAL, RATIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL PROTOCOL WOULD TAKE AT LEAST A YEAR.

6. FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES THE COMMISSION HAS NOT YET EVEN BEGUN SERIOUS WORK ON THE REPORT IT MUST MAKE TO THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDING A COMMUNITY POSITION ON THE GREEK APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP. THE COMMISSION EXPECTS TO ASSIGN ONE PERSON FULL TIME TO THIS EFFORT

BUT DOES NOT YET EVEN HAVE HIM ON BOARD. OUR SOURCE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE REPORT WILL CERTAINLY NOT BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

7. OUR SOURCE CONFIRMS THAT ALTHOUGH MEMBER STATES CONTINUE TO REACT POSITIVELY TO THE GREEK APPLICATION WHEN TALKING TO GREEKS, THERE IS A CONSIDERABLE UNEASINESS IN MANY COUNTRIES ABOUT ENLARGING THE COMMUNITY AT THIS TIME PARTICULARLY WITH THE ADDITION OF ANOTHER "POOR" MEMBER. ONLY THE FRENCH AND THE ITALIANS SHOW ANY ENTHUSIASM. NEVERTHELESS OUR SOURCE ONCLUDES THAT ACCESSION IS ALMOST INEVITABLE AND THE ONLY QUESTION MARK IS WHEN. MORRIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ECBRU06924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750265-0432
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975071/aaaaaadi.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ATHENS 5715
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION VIEW ON EC-GREECE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING
TAGS: ETRD, PORG, GR, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006